

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**  
**Title 13, Article 3.0, Section 159.10**  
**Window Decal for Vehicles with a**  
**Wheelchair Lift or Wheelchair Carrier**

California Vehicle Code Section 5201 requires license plates to be clearly visible to law enforcement on a vehicle being driven on California's roads and highways. Assembly Bill 1303 (Ch. 626, 2003) amended Section 5201 to mandate the Department of Motor Vehicles to design and issue a decal for the purpose of identifying rear license plates that are being obstructed on vehicles equipped with a wheelchair lift or wheelchair carrier. Section 5201 requires the decal to contain the license plate number assigned to the vehicle transporting the wheelchair lift or wheelchair carrier and requires the decal to be displayed on the rear window of the vehicle so as to be clearly visible to law enforcement.

In order to qualify for the decal, the vehicle must have been issued a disabled person or disabled veteran license plate, or a disabled permanent placard. The decal was designed in collaboration with the Department of Highway Patrol and will be issued at no charge.

The purpose of this regulation is to identify the form to be used for requesting the decal and the information necessary for submitting the completed form to the department.

**Section 159.10 (a)** specifies the form that is to be used when requesting a decal. The applicant must complete Sections D and H of the Miscellaneous Statements of Facts form, REG 256 (REV. 5/2004) containing the following items:

**Section 159.10(a)(1)** specifies that the disabled person plate, disabled veteran plate, or disabled person placard number must be provided on the form. This is necessary in order to determine if the applicant qualifies for the decal.

**Section 159.10(a)(2)** specifies that the applicant must provide the license number, vehicle make and vehicle identification number of the vehicle on which the decal will be placed. This is necessary in order to verify the correct vehicle so the decal will be issued with the correct license plate number.

**Section 159.10(a)(3)** specifies that the name and address of the applicant must be provided on the form. This is necessary for the proper mailing of the decal in the event the address of the applicant is different from registered address of the vehicle with the wheelchair lift or wheelchair carrier.

**Section 159.10(a)(4)** specifies that the applicant's signature is required to certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that the information provided is true and correct. This requirement is authorized under Vehicle Code Section 1652.

**Section 159.10(a)(5)** specifies that the applicant provide a daytime telephone number. This is necessary to allow the department to contact the application if further clarification is needed.

**Subdivision 159.10 (b)** informs the applicant that only vehicles equipped with a wheelchair lift or wheelchair carrier, which is obstructing the view of the rear license plate, are eligible for a decal.

**Subdivisions 159.10 (b)(1), (2) and (3)** informs the applicant that to qualify for the decal, the applicant must have a valid disabled person license plate or placard or a disabled veteran license plate.

**Subdivision 159.10 (c)** informs the applicant where to submit the completed Miscellaneous Statements of Facts requesting the decal.